

THE COLUMBIAN CALL

VOL. I.

WASHINGTON, D. C., DECEMBER 18, 1895.

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COLUMBIAN

Has a Representative in the New York Delegation of the Fifty-fourth Congress in the Person of the

HON. BENJAMIN L. FAIRCHILD

Who is one of the Youngest Members of that August Body and a Graduate of the Columbian Law School in the Class of '83—He Chats Entertainingly of his College Life.

A STUDENT of the present Congress is always forced to two conclusions at the very start. First, the body is undoubtedly Republican, and second, it contains a large number of young men. These young men also give every indication of being heard in the deliberations, and, if their histories is any criterion, they give promise of contributing speeches and information well worth listening to.

A CALL writer talked with one of them recently. He was a medium sized man with a scrutinizing look to his clear eyes, and a plain, matter-of-fact way of expressing himself. The room was a pleasant one at the Shoreham, and sometimes he let his gaze wander out through the window to where the sunshine lay its yellow surface along the roof tops, gilding the monument or danced on the sparkling waves of the river in the distance. At such times he was reflective, and his eye must have caught the reduced outlines of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing; for at one time Hon. Benjamin L. Fairchild, of the Sixteenth New York District, was employed in that busy hive.

"Those days had plenty of hard work for me," he went on. "I was a clerk in the Bureau, and that is not an easy department to be in. I usually went to work in the morning at eight o'clock, and as a rule did not get through until six. This meant that I would have to hurry to lectures at the Columbian Law School without my dinner, and I tell you sometimes I was a hungry man before I got through hearing all the professors were willing to tell me about Blackstone and Kent. I graduated in the class of '83, and found myself run down in health and spirit. I weighed about 127 pounds, and the physicians told me that unless I got away and took a rest and change, my earthly career would not amount to much either in length or achiev-

ments. Following their advice I went west, was in California for a while, camped on the Sacramento river where the heat was 120 or better under a fig tree, and lost some more flesh. Then I went up in the mountains and my vigor came back. I returned to Washington after winter had set in, too late to take up the work of the post-graduate year. I did so the following year, however, and got my Master's degree in the spring of '85.

"My class contained a number of strong men. There was the president, David Haines, a person who was a natural leader. He afterwards went to New York, became prom-

aid to beginners, while Prof. Maury was popular and knew personally nearly every member of the class.

"I had made up my mind that on the completion of my studies I would resign my position and commence the practice in the city of New York. I had heard a good many men say the same thing, and when the time came they lost courage, and held on like grim death to their government job. I knew my duty, and for fear I would fail I told all of my acquaintances that as soon as I graduated I was going to pull out. I got the matter so well advertised that when the time came I had to do as I said I would or become the laughing



HON. BENJAMIN L. FAIRCHILD.

inent at the bar and died, much regretted, about five years ago. Wm. G. Johnson, now a professor at your school, was another. Shellabarger & Wilson, then as now a leading law firm of the city, had representatives at the school in the persons of Robert Shellabarger and Charles Wilson, sons of the distinguished members of this law partnership. W. W. Wilshire, son of a prominent member of the District bar, was of our number. The law faculty at that time contained Justice Cox and Prof. Maury, the only ones that are left now, I believe, of the old regime. Everybody held the Justice in high esteem, his wonderful knowledge of the principles making him a great

stock of the community that knew me. Two weeks before I took the examinations I resigned, stood the District bar test, left for New York and landed there with just sixteen dollars in my pocket, and not a friend that I could go to for either advice or assistance. I remember as I walked down Broadway I said to myself, if I fail I will not go back to Washington, I could not stand their jokes. I will head toward a little farm that I know of near Niagara Falls and pay my relatives a visit. That day I met a Washington friend and told him that I had come to New York determined to get some sort of law work to do. He said he knew a young lawyer who was doing a fair

business and advised me to see him. I did so, and, to make a long story short, I went to work for him at the magnificent salary of five dollars a week, and I tell you I lived on four dollars and fifty cents of it. I never rode; I walked, and exercise made it possible for me to digest the second grade food I had to eat. It was a start. I watched my corners, got a little outside work to do and, with the aid of my stenography, made a living.

"In time I formed the acquaintance of Gen. Thomas Ewing, and effected an arrangement with him, whereby my name was to go on the sign of his office suite as attorney at law, in return for which I was to act as his managing clerk at a nominal salary. One day the sign read Ewing, Southard and Fairchild, and my stomach had an easier time of it."

It is not much of a tale, and yet it has a moral that any young man can apply. With the hope that a few young men, at least, will make the application is the motive that prompts the CALL to publish this simple annal of a life. The well known *Road and Inn* concludes an interesting article on the new Congressman with this paragraph:

"The success of Mr. Fairchild in his profession, in his financial investments and in his first venture into politics is really phenomenal. Starting a poor boy, at the age of thirty-three he is rich and influential, with a fair prospect of attaining an honored public name—perhaps high distinction. He was elected by a majority of 5,600 in a district which, at the previous Congressional election, gave 6,400 for the candidate of the opposite political party. This result can not be wholly attributed to the political upheaval of last year, but is in part due to individual strength, growing out of Mr. Fairchild's large real estate interests and active connections with improvements in Winchester county, which with two assembly districts of New York city, form the Sixteenth Congressional District. He owns a large interest in Pelham Heights, one of the most beautiful and delightful suburbs of the metropolis."

The next issue of the CALL will be the New Year's number, and will be out on Thursday, January 2, 1896. It will contain, among other special features, an exhaustive article on the University Prize Winners of 1896.

THE ALUMNI

*Gather at University Hall and
Have a Royal Good Time.*

REPORT OF BUSINESS MEETING AND
REUNION.

A glow of light from every window of the University building, a glow of cordial comradeship in the eyes of every alumnus (and every alumnæ) present, marked the annual reunion of the Alumni Association last Friday night. By 8.15 the University hall was comfortably filled, and Dr. Butler opened with a prayer. Minutes of last meeting were read and approved; reports of the secretary and treasurer were heard, and then Jesse H. Wilson, President of the Association, addressed the audience. He spoke of the constant improvement in educational facilities, and the rapidly increasing number of thoroughly educated men which the universities of the land are annually turning out. "It would take a very Saul, indeed," said he "to stand head and shoulders above his brethren in



JESSE H. WILSON, RETIRING PRES.

these days." The real aim of education is not merely to make scholars, but to make intelligent, moral, self-supporting citizens. This view of education makes it essential to the welfare of the State.

"That education which confines itself to the mental is deficient. Even that education which confines itself to the mental and moral does not suffice. Mind, conscience and body are the true trinity to the improvement of each member of which alike, education must strive.

"If I had been told," continued Mr. Wilson, "that the College football team could have done what it has done in the last few months, if I had been told that the 'Varsity team could have done what it did Thanksgiving Day, when the opposing team snatched victory from the very jaws of defeat, I would have said 'impossible.' The time has passed when it is necessary to apologize for Colum-

bian along any line of work. I think myself fortunate, ladies and gentlemen, to occupy this position at this time, when a new era is beginning, nay, has begun, for Columbian University."

President Whitman was then introduced, and responded in his strong and forcible manner.

He spoke of the noble work which the Alumni Association is doing, and showed how essential it is that this powerful factor should be in closest touch with the daily work of the University, and also that the different departments of the University should be unified in sentiment. "The time will come," said he, "when men will not boast of being graduates of the Law School, or the Corcoran Scientific School, or the College, but will remember only that they are graduates of the Columbian University. Oxford is made up of a large number of independent institutions, but on the annual field day, when Cambridge measures strength with her upon the field, her athletes remember only that they represent Oxford.

"It is a great thing for the University that THE COLUMBIAN CALL is found possible. It is a true University bulletin. I rejoice in the athletic success of the University; that we were able on Thanksgiving Day to put in the field a 'Varsity team. Ladies and gentlemen, it may be *pedagogical* heresy, but I believe in athletics. I would rather see our boys playing foot ball and base ball, golf, and tennis, and cricket, than see them burning their young lives out in pursuit of unwholesome pleasures."

"We must have an ideal," said Dr. Whitman. "Thus only can a University prosper. That which makes Harvard, Yale, Princeton and Columbian what they are is that they work for an ideal. The most pitiful thing in life is a man who has lost his ideal. Nay, there is one thing more pitiful—a university whose ideal is lost. We had better die than drift."

At the close of Dr. Whitman's speech, Dr. Greene was introduced, and brought down the house with his first words. "It's rather rough on me," said he, "to be asked to speak after Dr. Whitman's magnificent speech, but perhaps contrast is desirable. It reminds me of a story I once read of a little boy who assisted at an earthquake. The littleness of the boy has been growing on me ever since." Dr. Greene then congratulated the University on its new president, and spoke in glowing terms of his ability. "Past success, however," said he, "lays upon us

greater responsibility for the future. We must help him; we must be sworn friends of this institution. Though all of us may not be worthy to fill his position, we can each be indispensable in his own particular place."

At the close of Dr. Greene's speech Hon. John B. Corliss, a graduate of the University, and now a member of Congress from Michigan, described his own life at the law school when it was in a dingy building on Third street, and expressed the opinion that this ought to be the greatest educational institution in the land.

Three-minute reports were then



DR. C. W. RICHARDSON, NEW PRES.

called for from representatives of each department of the University. The Law School was represented by Mr. Martin, the College by Prof. Montague; the Medical School by Dr. Shute; the Corcoran Scientific School and School of Graduate Studies, by Dr. Munroe; the Dental School, by Dr. H. C. Thompson, and the Academy of Prof. Wilbur. A letter was read from Mr. Jessie Ewell, the first student who registered upon the first roll of the Medical Department, sixty-nine years ago. He is now ninety-four years old, and a resident of Hickory Grove, Va. An amendment was passed appointing vice-presidents instead of two, as six heretofore. Dr. Mason then nominated Dr. Charles W. Richardson as president, and he was elected without opposition. He made a brief speech, expressing his gratification, and the election of the other officers was proceeded with. The following were unanimously chosen: Dr. Butler, first Vice-President for the College; John W. Chappel, for the Medical; H. B. Browne, for the Law; M. M. Ramsay, for the Corcoran Scientific; G. W. Haw, for the Dental, and J. M. Reynolds, for the Post-graduate. Prof. Hodgkins and Mr. Lerner were unanimously re-elected secretary and treasurer, respectively. The Association then adjourned to the Post-graduate room, where refreshments were served.

University News.

College.

At the last meeting of the Baptist Ministers' Conference, of this city, Prof. James Howard Gore, Ph. D. read an interesting paper entitled, "In the Wake of the Pilgrims." While in Holland last summer, Dr. Gore visited the localities where the Pilgrims had lived. He examined the original authorities and documents to ascertain the causes that exiled the Pilgrims from England, and studied the influences of the Pilgrims on the Dutch, and that of the Dutch on the Pilgrims. Elizabeth, said Dr. Gore in this paper, was a Protestant only politically, and her attempts to secure conformity to that Church were in reality attempts toward restoration, which to the Puritans were so obnoxious that they left England. Holland was at that time the recognized "ark of the fugitives." The Puritans first went to Amsterdam, where the shipping gave employment to the unskilled labor, but because of church troubles the congregation, which subsequently came to America, removed to Leyden. This city was one of manufactures. All trades were in the hands of guilds and an apprenticeship was a prerequisite to employment. The English exiles found it almost impossible to support themselves and decided to come to America. They left Leyden, not for freedom, for that they had; not because of the lack of the hospitality on the part of the Dutch, but chiefly, if not solely, because of the difficulties attending the procuring of employment. The route to Delftshaven was followed and the history of each village passed was given by Dr. Gore. The Dutch influence was completely lost, a few years after the Pilgrims came to America, and in a few years all recollection of the Pilgrims had faded from the memories of the Dutch. The people of Leyden were simply hosts of the Pilgrims, who enjoyed a hospitality which, judging from their future acts, they would never have reciprocated. Dr. Gore's paper, which was thoroughly enjoyed by all present, is soon to be published.

President Whitman has taken charge of a Bible class in the Sunday School of the Calvary Baptist Church. The class numbers about 130 men. The influences of Columbian's new president is thus being felt along all the lines of educational life.

In January next Messrs. Ginn &

Company will publish in their International Modern Language Series, a volume entitled "Wissenschaftliche Vorträge von Emil Du Bois-Reymond." This is a collection of lectures of Du Bois-Reymond, edited with notes and introduction by Prof. James Howard Gore, Ph. D. The lectures are so interesting, the notes so copious, and the vocabulary of the great physiologist is so wide that the volume cannot but prove an important aid in the study of technical German.

On Tuesday, Dec. 10th, the students Missionary Society of the College had the pleasure of listening to a native Hindoo minister and his wife, Rev. and Mrs. Maclavaran Nikawbe. Rev. Nikawbe spoke on the religions of India. "Buddhism," he said, "has many things to commend it to the moralist, but it teaches that the end of all is the 'Nerva' or oblivion." He then went on to compare Hindooism with Christianity, showing the superiority of the Christian faith. He ended with an appeal to the Christian students to interest themselves in behalf of missions not because it is the fashion, but because it is God's command. Mrs. Nikawbe, who conducts a school for child-wives in Bombay, told how devoted the Hindoo women are as wives, and how they pride themselves in their homes. She deplored the fact that they are densely ignorant, having much to learn and unlearn, and longed for the day to come when their good qualities might be directed by Christian zeal.

Owing to the serious illness of her father, Miss Alexander has left Washington for Texas, where she will probably remain.

A Resignation.

Mr. Robert S. Barrett Jr. of the College has resigned his position as Managing Editor of the CALL. He does this because of the press of his college work. At a regular meeting of the Staff, Tuesday afternoon, his resignation was accepted. The CALL workers hoped that he would reconsider his determination, but he held that it would be impossible. A resolution was passed thanking him for his earnest, talented work on behalf of the University Journal. Mr. Barrett is a young man of good executive ability and every indication of possessing the true newspaper instinct, and the CALL loses a valuable assistant in his departure. He has also given up his positions on the University organizations with the exception of manager of the base ball association.

Law School.

It would seem that the Columbian University Law School is a mascot for her students. Almost every day records the advancement of some Columbian in the business or political circles. The latest to be called up higher is Carter Brewster Keene, one of the best known and most popular members of the Law School. Mr. Keene was a clerk in the Treasury Department, and last week was appointed private secretary and confidential adviser to General Maxwell, Fourth Assistant Post Master General, to succeed Mr. Cortelyou, recently called



to the White House by President Cleveland. Mr. Keene hails from the coast of Maine. When the class of '95 came to elect a president everybody conceded the place to him, and he was chosen without opposition. Keene is of the stuff that gentlemen are made of, and is splendidly equipped for his new position. He has, during his short stay in Washington, not only attracted the attention of the Post Office officials, but of other men who gather about them as counsellors—the best and brightest and truest men. So it was that Mr. Keene had to choose between three good official positions and one business proposition, and all offered him without the asking.

Robt. L. Russell, Law '93, now secretary to the commander-in-chief of the U. S. Naval Force on the European station, writes from Naples to a friend in the junior class: "I hope the University is flourishing, and am glad you are attending there. I was up to Tarsus, St. Paul's birthplace, recently and made a speech to the students exhorting them to deeds of honor and virtue." Any one who knows Russell knows that he can do that to perfection.

W. M. Smith, Junior, went to Columbus, Ohio, last Thursday as a witness for the B. & O. R. R. Co., in a case growing out of a wreck which occurred when he was an employee of the company in the train despatcher's office at Newark, Ohio. Smith is a great admirer of corporations, and says he would rather be a corporation lawyer than President. We expect great things of Smith and must compliment him on his successful debut as a presiding officer during the organization of his class.

The "Quintus Quiz Club" is another junior club, with Dwight V. Jones, of Nevada, as president and C. C. Wells, of Illinois, as secretary.

Academy.

Prof. Otis T. Mason lectured entertainingly on "Races of Men" last Friday.

Rittenour wears the University ribbons very conspicuously and patriotically. This is as it should be. We would like to see every Academy boy follow his example.

The Academy has obtained from the University treasurer a valuable set of historical reference books.

F. N. Everett was absent Monday of last week through illness.

Prof. E. Hilton Jackson, so long connected with the "Prep," will lecture Friday on "Switzerland."

As "Billy Sterrett remarked the other day, *Clamor populi auditus est*. We not only have two extra holidays in New Year's week, but in addition, one or two days at the other end, so that we adjourn this Friday until January 6. Hurrah for precedents!

This arouses the ire of Professor Pyne. He detests holidays, and was observed to remark cynically the other day, that if there was a dog fight anywhere the Academy would immediately be granted a holiday.

An informal visitor at the "Prep" quite frequently is a cute little mite of humanity, who takes the gravest interest in the classes and persists in calling our principal "Papa," to the delight of the boys and the discomfiture of the professor.

On Thursday last, Prof. Wilbur, Principal of the Academy, presented an autograph copy of Dr. Smith's famous hymn "America," to the class in Political Economy. Prof. Wilbur read an interesting paper explaining the circumstances under which the hymn was composed, the general character, wide attainments and disposition of its author, and giving many scraps of biography, and personal reminiscences of a most interesting character. The paper not only gave the class an insight into the life of Dr. Smith, but was impressed with the personality of the writer as well. It was a great pleasure to hear and get acquainted with the genial gentleman, who has already worked such marvels at the Academy.

The value of this autograph letter is greatly enhanced by the fact that only two days after Dr. Smith wrote this copy he died. The letter, in pursuance of Prof. Lodge's plan, stated in last week's CALL, will be framed and hung in a prominent position upon the wall of the Political Economy room.

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Helene Mora..

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COR. F AND 11TH.

The Columbian Call.

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WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1895.

“XMAS GIFT!” You're it.
Now don't be mean, but
rush in a subscription or two.

A CERTAIN topical song, popular
some years back, gave the infor-
mation that when a Mr. McGinty
made a call on the chief of Tammany
Hall, he had fifteen dollars in his in-
side pocket, don't you see. The old
gentleman afterward met with an
accident, and is now absorbing water
at the bottom of the sea. According
to our interview this week, Represen-
tative Fairchild landed in New York
with sixteen dollars, and to-day he
is in Congress. All of which goes to
prove that there is really no luck in
odd numbers.

THE FRATERNITY MAN.

WITHIN the last century the col-
lege fraternity has reached
maturity of powers. When we ex-
amine the history of this phase of
University life we find it to be as old
as the halls themselves in many
instances. Humanity has always
segregated itself in groups, large or
small, according to the demands.
The old law of attraction exhibited
itself, molecules that affiliated swing
together, water ever sought its level.
In University life the fraternity spirit
early made itself apparent. At Ox-
ford when the sand was run through
the glass to mark the divisions of
time, and brutality and Latin were
the two heavy studies of the course,
you catch glimpses of this segre-

gating spirit. As time wore on and
true college life came to the surface,
the fraternity, as we have it to-day,
made itself apparent.

Men organized bands of congenial
spirits with a unity of purpose.
They selected them from all the
classes, and on the lofty platform of
brotherly love took up the work of
protecting each other and sacrificing
for the common good of the other
fraters. You may argue that their
purpose was a selfish one. That
while their trinity was charity, loy-
alty and fraternity, it only applied
to the members of their band, and
ignored those outside the charmed
circle. True, but is not that true of
every secret fraternal association?
It is based on the principle: Our
altars and hearthstone first, and then
we will struggle for the people at
large.

Many a young man of talent and
fair social qualities has had his way
wonderfully lightened, during his
first few years at college, by the
guiding hand of some good fratern-
ity. The older brothers have shown
him the pitfalls and illumined the
dark places.

His choice of a fraternity must be
considered as a fair index of his
character and disposition, providing
he has been free and untrammelled
in his selection. You place him
where he places himself. There are
fraternities and fraternities. Some
whose chief tenet is to be well
dressed, to tie an Ascot or De
Joinville the ambition of life—a
class that can be described as an
Aristocracy of Clothes. Then comes
another line who struggle for power,
who aim to control college organiza-
tions, and get their members into the
positions of honor—an Aristocracy
of Political Pull. And there is still
another who go in much for gray
matter, who think longingly of the
Forty Immortals of the French
Academy and affect a slovenness of
manner and talk learnedly on the
latest philosophical fad—they de-
light in saying that they represent an
Aristocracy of Brains.

But they all have their advantages
and defects, and each can prove, if
allowed the time, their royal right
to wear the palm. It matters little
which is right or wrong. The only
thing that is to be cultivated in college
is a true spirit of fraternity. It is not
necessary in doing this that a man
should wear an insignia bearing a few
Greek letters, or that he go through
mysterious performances in a dark-
ened room. Brotherly love is the
key-note of the world's advance, and
the man who follows it is a better
man for a' that.

To Miss Wallis.



Thou art a dainty, breeze-blown slip,
A flashing wing on downward dip,
A sunbeam at the Storm King's lip,
With charms to let.

Thy orbs doth hold the thunder black,
In melting mood they woo one back,
And waves of light they never lack,
O! thou coquette!

At times you tease, a moon-lit fay,
Again a queen you rule the day,
And now asob, a child astray,
We long to pet.

Ah! when I'm old and quite *passé*,
And pictures tell my dying day,
There may you be the Queen of May,
Winsome Fadette!

G. U.

A SUCCESS

*Was the First Public Debate of
the Columbian Law School
Debating Society.*

A Good Audience, Good Speeches and Good
Music Mark the Society's First
Public Function.

“After careful deliberation,” said
President Whitman, spokesman for
the committee of judges who had
been appointed to decide on the
merits of the debate, “I am author-
ized to report that the judges find in
favor of the negative as it has been
presented to-night, and further de-
cide that Mr. W. H. Coleman and
Mr. M. M. McLean presented the
best arguments on the question.”

The house thundered its applause,
and a rush was made toward the
stage to congratulate the victors.
Everybody seemed content with the
decision and the vanquished con-
gratulated the winners and the win-
ners did the same by the vanquished.

Mr. Shreve and his excellent or-
chestra had opened the evening's en-
tertainment with one of Sousa's
stirring marches. The debaters came
in and took their places, and the
president, Mr. Underwood, made an
address. In conclusion, he asked
the judges, President B. A. Whitman,
Dr. A. P. Montague, dean of the
college, and Hon. Wm. A. Maury,
professor of equity pleading in the
Law Department, to decide two mat-
ters at the conclusion of the debate;
first, which side won, and second,
select two of the contestants as having
made the best arguments. He read the
question: Resolved, That the Presi-

dent should be elected by the direct
vote of the people, and then intro-
duced Mr. R. E. Wiley, who opened
for the affirmative. Mr. Wiley made
an easy, graceful speech, and was
diplomatic and conciliatory through-
out. In substance he spoke as fol-
lows:

“The election of the President of
the United States is the most im-
portant act the people can be called
upon to perform. His position is
most important, he has a veto power
on public bills, makes treaties, is
commander-in-chief of the Army and
Navy, and a vast number of other
important duties. The manner of
selecting such a man is of vast im-
portance. Its solution gave the
framers of the Constitution much
concern. The present system, in the
light of their day, and a compromise
was the result. Under it we have
held twenty-six elections, and from
the very beginning it has missed the
end of its creation. It was intended
that the electors should get together
and consult, selecting the best man
in their opinion for the place. Noth-
ing of the sort is now done. The
electors simply vote like so many
machines, and the man who goes
back on his instructions would be
branded as an outcast. In addition,
the scheme is dangerous. Three
times has it failed to provide a safe
path through the dangers of a close
election. The elections were Thomas
Jefferson and Aaron Burr, John
Quincy Adams and Andrew Jackson,
Rutherford B. Hayes and Samuel J.
Tilden were contestants, were all at-
tended with much excitement and by
very close margins the country es-
caped civil war. This scheme defeats
the will of the people. A candidate
may have an overwhelming majority
of the popular vote and yet a bare
majority in a pivotal State may de-
feat him. The twelve largest States
have a majority of the electoral vote.
Suppose a candidate carries them by
a 5,000 plurality in each State, 60,000
all told, and his opponent carries the
remaining thirty-two by a plurality
of 40,000 to each State. His plurality
would be more than a million, and
yet he would be defeated. The elec-
tions of '24 and '76 are examples. In
place of this dangerous and useless
system we ask that the direct vote
scheme be adopted. Popular gov-
ernment means that a majority shall
rule. Our scheme will make this
possible. The present system has
long been condemned, and the people
want the right to vote directly for the
executive head of the Government.
Is the demand an unreasonable one?”

Mr. McLean followed for the neg-
ative. His effort was a surprise to

his friends. But few knew that he possessed such cogent powers in debate. His debate was exhaustive and was largely based upon the constitutional coloring of the question. In part he said:

"This idea of elections which we are following to-day is the result of a compromise, but it contains one fundamental truth. Ours was a union of sovereign, independent States which, for certain protection afforded, gave up specified rights and privileges. One was that representatives from the States should select the chief executive. The General Government is not a government of the people, but a government of the States. In local affairs, and matters concerning themselves, the people rule, but in national affairs the States rule. In not one single particular in the whole range of national legislation do the people have a direct voice, and the wisdom of this plan has been demonstrated time and time again. At the original convention that selected this scheme there were eleven plans submitted to govern the election of a President, and the wisest men of that day selected this as of best service to the people. Its object is two fold. It is a medium between the State and General Government, and second, it acts as a buffer against the passions of the multitude. There are the same number of delegates to the college as there are Representatives in Congress. Thus the weak States are protected and the strong held in check. A direct vote would not stop corruption, for the slums of cities would still be ready to be debauched. A direct vote is unwieldy and impractical. No, gentlemen, we need no change. We had better let each State manage its own affairs and control its own elections as originally intended by the Constitution."

G. W. Baker argued for the affirmative. He made a good impression, and presented his points carefully and logically. A synopsis of the thought followed reads:

"Because a system is old is a poor argument in favor of its retention. The mass of American politicians favor the electoral college because it offers a chance for corruption. It is an insult to the majority and cumbersome in its workings. In 1892 New York, with a plurality of 45,518, gave thirty-six electoral votes for Cleveland, and Texas, with a plurality of 139,460, gave but fifteen electoral votes. Is there any reason why 45,000 people in New York should have more than twice the power of 139,000 people in Texas? Under this system people in sure States frequently lose their interest

in politics because they know their votes will not be needed in summing up the result. The politicians know the States upon which the result hinges, and as a result their time and money is spent there. The will of the people is crushed and the slums of large cities elect the President. In case of no election it goes to the House, and this dependency of the executive department upon the legislative is dangerous and opposed to the fundamental principle of the Constitution, which provides that the branches shall be free of each other in their workings. In order to become President Mr. Jefferson had to



M. M. M'LEAN.

agree to sign two bills for the benefit of Philadelphia and keep in two revenue collectors at Wilmington. A shameless debauchery of public office. The scheme we argue for to-night has none of these defects, and the people would be assured that their will could be executed. You can deceive and delude some of the people but you can't do it with all the people." In conclusion he quoted from Chancellor Kent an argument in favor of the position of the affirmative.

W. H. Coleman, slightly nervous, but full of confidence and power, then addressed the committee on behalf of the negative. He had his speech well in hand, and it was frequently punctuated with sudden applause. He said in his argument:

"To have the change the electoral college will have to be abolished and an absolute democracy established. The origin of this institution was in the distinction between a republic of States and a pure democracy. Any substitute must be founded on this distinction. The substitute offered by the gentlemen of the opposition is nothing more than the pure democracy which the founders of the Government in their wisdom wished to avoid. Under the proposed system there would be greater corruption, for in those States where one party held complete control they would manufacture returns to suit themselves. The dangers instead of diminishing would in-

crease. Our appeal to-night, as my colleagues have stated, is made to the conservative thinking public, whereas our opponents are playing for the support of shifting, popular mind."

The grave, serious face of Arthur Belitz confronted the audience. That he felt the right of his position was apparent to everyone. His work was to close, to fill gaps that the opposition had overlooked; a hard job that he did well.

"I have heard something in this debate to-night" he began, "a statement that has met my ears for the first time. I know it has been held good law in certain sections of this country, but not in my own. It therefor has a strange sound to my ears, this utterance that we are not a government of the people, for the people and by the people, but instead are simply a confederation of States banded together for mutual protection. But it is not true, we have outgrown such ideas. The United States is a common country with a common people. The Declaration of Independence provides that we are all born free and equal and have certain inalienable rights—equal power in suffrage when it comes to selecting the ruler of this nation among the number. Under the present system what have we? An inequality of representation. One vote in Nevada is worth nine in New York. The vote of Montana threbles the power of the vote in Ohio. It is wrong, the people are at the mercy of an idea that has long outgrown its usefulness, if it ever had any. The electoral vote of the United States has never come within ten per cent. of the popular



W. H. COLEMAN.

vote, and yet campaigns of education go on, as though it does any good to educate people when the very end sought by the education is to be defeated by the cumbersome relic of a bygone day. Whatever the decision to-night I am satisfied that we will yet live to see the rational idea of direct vote adopted by the conservative, sensible people of this country."

A warm greeting was extended to John M. Spellman. The Junior contingent was out in force, and they are big believers in Spellman's powers. They were not disappointed in their anticipations, and from the time he lay down his premises on which he based his fight to the close, his deliberate, pronounced delivery was attentively listened to.

He gave a concise history of the present system and then said. "As it stands we have two great benefits from it. First, it protects us from uncertainty, and second it discourages fraud by localizing its effect. The idea of a direct vote is wrong in its entirety. It would occasion intrigue and turmoil and raise a dangerous excitement. Its most insidious danger would lie in the fact that the crafty politician might baffle the wishes of the people by manipulating the vote of the people in one large city or more. The experience of ancient and modern Europe has been unfavorable to the practicability of a fair and peaceable popular election of the executive head of a great nation. France evidences this idea, for in 1804 they were compelled through domestic turbulence and corruption to change their system of popular elections to an hereditary monarchy. Poland offers another striking example of the failure of the policy. There is more cause for fear for a republican form of government from uprisings of the people, occasioned by great national excitement than from any encroachment of arbitrary power made possible by too strong an elective system."

Postponed.

We have been compelled to postpone our feature article on the June prize winners, and will present it in the New Year's number. We would also be glad to get the names and addresses of all students at the University who are doing stenography or secretary work in addition to pursuing their studies. This article is to be published in one of the January numbers and we would like the data of it together before the holidays. Send your communication to the CALL, care of the University, and kindly do so at once.

A College Joke.

Mr. McCurdy of the College is responsible for the following: An Irishman having first had the Chinese Extradition act explained to him, while passing along the street, saw a Chinaman's head emerge from an open grating, "Make all the laws ye please," said the astute son of Erin, "if they can't find no other way to get in, they'll dig through."

Society Doings.

Hermesian.

The Committee on the Special Order for Christmas, Messrs. Holmead, Ritchie, Van Auken, Everett and Lanza, reported last Friday as to their decision on the case. It was agreed to have a Republican National Convention with all its characteristics and phases. Each member of the Society will represent some States of the United States and control a certain number of votes, and the nominations and elections promise to be exciting. It will occur this Friday. At the last regular meeting M. E. Dow was re-elected to membership. There also ran off a debate: *Resolved that Cuba should be an independent country.*—Affirmative, Messrs. Everett and Holmead—Negative, Lanza and Ritchie. The affirmative gained a sweeping victory, being awarded the debate and Holmead and Everett receiving the two highest marks respectively.

Scientific Department—Meeting of the Students.

The regular tri-weekly meeting of the students of the Scientific Department, which was to have been held on Saturday last, was postponed, at the request of a large number of students who wished to attend the Law Debate, until next Saturday night, the 21st instant, in the Chemical Lecture Room. Upon the whole it may be said that this postponement is a happy one, for the day as now amended for the meeting will be the last at the University prior to the Christmas holidays, and a very attractive and interesting programme has been provided by the executive committee, including a paper by Professor Hodgkins and also some musical selections by the Capitol Banjo and Glee Club, of which Mr. Hays is a member.

It is hoped that it is not necessary to suggest that the meeting be made a success by the attendance of a large number of students. Questions of no little interest to the students of the Scientific Department have been awaiting some little time their consideration, and need immediate action.

They Went to Alexandria.

The Banjo, Mandolin and Glee Club gave a most enjoyable concert at Alexandria for the benefit of the Infirmary Fund Friday evening. They went down forty strong and came back with that number, too, if anyone should inquire. Although it was their first performance as a

club, they made a strong impression on the representative audience present. The soloists, Hensey, Cronin, Hinman and Finckel, scored from the start. Finckel's work on the violin seemed to meet with hearty appreciation, and Andrew Bradley's song, with chorus of entire club, took the house by storm. The singer was compelled to respond three times, his last effort being a bass solo that revealed the great strength of his voice. In this solo he accompanied himself on the banjo. The three divisions of the club, banjo, mandolin and glee, seemed to find equal favor with the people, and all the numbers earned much applause. The club returned to Washington on the 10.52 train, marched up Pennsylvania avenue in column of fours to Faber's restaurant, where they broke ranks to sit down to a most appetizing "spread." This little afterpiece had been arranged by two of the club members, Messrs. Grier and White, and the surprise made the midnight feast all the more enjoyable.

Tuesday evening the clubs gave their concert for the benefit of the Foot Ball Association in the University Hall before a small audience. The concert was a great success artistically and the audience gave enthusiastic encores to every number. The features of the evening were the "Columbian Student's March," rendered by the Banjo Club, and "Standing on the Corner," by Mr. Bradley, with the whole Glee, Banjo and Mandolin Clubs joining in the chorus. The vocal solos by Messrs. Hensey and Cronin, and the instrumental numbers by Messrs. Finckel and Hinman were given a hearty reception. Another number that seemed to take was Gounod's Funeral March of a Marionette. It was rendered in a finished and artistic manner and the varying shades of this grand standard piece of music were fully brought out. The audience though small was an appreciative one, and showered many flattering remarks upon the club members for their high-grade work.

Base Ball Association.

On Thursday, November 12th, a meeting of the students of Columbian University interested in athletics was held for the purpose of forming an association to take charge of all matters pertaining to base ball for 1896. Mr. R. S. Barrett, Jr., was elected chairman. On motion the meeting resolved itself into the Columbian University Base Ball Association. An election of officers was then held, resulting as follows: Manager, Mr. R. S. Barrett Jr., Cap-

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tain, Mr. H. S. Greene. Mr. Greene has been the captain of the team for the last three years. On motion a finance committee, consisting of representatives from each Department of the University was appointed by the chairman. A motion was then passed creating an executive committee, who shall have charge of all the details. This committee will be elected at the next meeting. The association expect to secure games with Yale, Harvard, Pennsylvania, Princeton, Cornell, Lehigh and other leading institutions. The meeting adjourned until Tuesday, the 17th, at seven o'clock.

Dr. A. F. A. King Honored.

We clip the following from a Philadelphia paper—a tribute to one of the brightest men in the Columbian Medical faculty:

The Philadelphia Medical Club held its fourth reception at the Bellevue last evening, the guest of honor being Dr. A. F. A. King, of Washington, D. C., Professor of Obstetrics in the Columbian University of that city and author of a well-known text book on that subject.

Dr. H. A. Hare, president of the society, introduced Dr. King, who, in responding, referred to the importance of Philadelphia as a medical centre, the medical hub of the universe, noted for great surgeons, physicians and specialists, for medical authors and schools.

"In Washington," he said, "a bronze statue has been erected to the only surgeon who has acquired a national reputation worthy of such an honor, the late Prof. Gross, of Philadelphia, and another statue is contemplated to commemorate the life of the famous Philadelphia physician, Benjamin Rush. No other city has produced men worthy of such immortalization. But not satisfied with raising great men, she comes to Washington and takes our distinguished Dr. Billings from us."

Dr. King stated that he never came to Philadelphia without feeling a desire to revisit the scenes of his student life; to come back to Ninth and Chestnut streets, where the old University building was situated, and around Ninth and Spruce, in "Portico Row," where he lodged while attending the University. He longed once more to listen to the eloquence of his old teachers, Francis G. Smith, Prof. Penrose, Alfred Stille and John Leidy, and he recounted, in an amusing way, his first meeting with Dr. J. M. DaCosta, the "clearest, best and most easily understood of all lecturers."

XMAS GAME!

The 'Varsity
vs.

The University of Virginia.

The foot ball game between the 'Varsity Eleven and the University of Virginia team will come off on Christmas Day at the N. Capitol Park ('Varsity Grounds). The game is scheduled for three p. m. and there should be a mighty outpouring of Columbians. The team has been strengthened by the addition of M. H. Busey, who has been the C. A. C. guard. He is a law man of the Junior class. Archie Aiton, who was captain of the Orients and Harry Avis, law man and formerly the Orients' half back.

There is an air of confidence exhibited by the 'Varsity leaders in connection with this game that portends a great deal. With a weak line in some respects, the eleven nearly wrested the trophy from the C. A. C. team, Thanksgiving Day. The defects that troubled us then have been done away with, and Cockrell, the captain, in his quiet way, seems very well satisfied with the personnel of his men and the style of play they exhibit. A big crowd of enthusiastic Columbians would be a wonderful inspiration to the team and would go a long way toward assuring victory.

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November 4, 1895.

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Theatre Talk.

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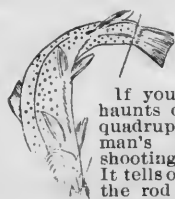
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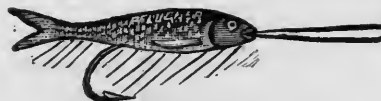
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